

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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TODD ROBBEN,  
Plaintiff,

Case Nos. 3:13-cv-0438-RFB-VPC  
3:15-cv-0529-RFB-VPC  
3:15-cv-0530-RFB-VPC

v.

**ORDER**

CARSON CITY, NEVADA;  
DEPARTMENT OF ALTERNATIVE  
SENTENCING et al; DAS CHIEF RORY  
PLANETA in his individual and official  
capacities, DAS ASSISTANT CHIEF KATE  
SUMMERS in her individual and official  
capacities, DAS OFFICER MARTIN HALE  
in his individual and official capacities, DAS  
DOES 1-10 in their individual and official  
capacities, CARSON CITY JUDGE JOHN  
TATRO in his individual and official  
capacities, CARSON CITY OFFICIAL  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY NEIL  
ROMBARDO in his individual and official  
capacities, CARSON CITY DEPUTY  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY TRAVIS LUCIA in  
his individual and official capacities,  
CARSON CITY JAILHOUSE DOCTOR  
JOSEPH E. MCELLISTREM PHD in his  
individual and official capacities,  
Defendants.

Pending before the Court are two Motions to Stay Proceedings filed by *Pro Se* Plaintiff Todd Robben. In his motions, Robben states that criminal charges, which he disputes, were recently filed against him in California state court. Robben has filed several motions in connection with these criminal proceedings, which are currently pending, and states that he has immediate court hearings scheduled. Robben also states that his car has been impounded.

District courts have discretion to stay the proceedings before them in light of their inherent power to control their own dockets and promote judicial economy. Lockyer v. Mirant Corp., 398 F.3d 1098, 1110 (9th Cir. 2005); Landis v. North Am. Co., 299 U.S. 248, 255 (1936). “[A] trial court may, with propriety, find it is efficient for its own docket and the fairest course for the parties to enter a stay of an action before it, pending resolution of independent proceedings which bear upon the case. This rule applies whether the separate proceedings are judicial, administrative, or arbitral in character . . . .” Yong v. I.N.S., 208 F.3d 1116, 1119-20 (9th Cir. 2000) (quoting Leyva v. Certified Grocers of Cal., Ltd., 593 F.2d 857, 863 (9th Cir. 1979)). However, a stay should generally be for a limited duration, have a defined end point, and should not be granted “if there is even a fair possibility” that the stay will harm another party, unless the moving party makes a showing of hardship or inequity. Dependable Highway Express, Inc. v. Navigators Ins. Co., 498 F.3d 1059, 1066 (9th Cir. 2007) (quoting Landis, 299 U.S. at 255).

The Court finds that Robben has demonstrated good cause for a limited stay of his civil cases pending before this Court. Robben’s criminal proceedings will make it extremely difficult for him to effectively participate in his civil cases, in which he must meet filing and discovery deadlines. Therefore, and in light of Robben’s *pro se* status, the Court exercises its discretion to issue a stay of 60 days of Robben’s civil actions pending before it.

### **ORDER**

Accordingly,

**IT IS ORDERED** that Plaintiff Todd Robben’s Motions to Stay Proceedings are GRANTED. These are the following docket numbers:

- ECF Nos. 120 and 127 in case no. 3:13-cv-0438-RFB-VPC;
- ECF Nos. 27 and 32 in case no. 3:15-cv-0529-RFB-VPC; and
- ECF Nos. 33 and 38 in case no. 3:15-cv-0530-RFB-VPC.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that these cases are STAYED for 60 days. All pending deadlines are suspended during the stay.

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1           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Plaintiff Todd Robben shall file a status report on or  
2 before **June 20, 2016** informing the Court of the status of his criminal proceedings. The Court  
3 shall then issue an Order directing the parties how these cases shall proceed.

4  
5           **DATED:** April 19, 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RFB', written over a horizontal line.

7           **RICHARD F. BOULWARE, II**  
8           **United States District Judge**